

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the detailed Office Action and for the Notice of References Cited.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over MATSUSHIMA (U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2002/0165825) in view of NAKAKI (U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2002/0122076).

Upon entry of the present amendment, independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and dependent claims 2-5, 7-12, 14-17 and 19-24 will have been amended. The amendments to independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and dependent claims 2-5, 7-12, 14-17 and 19-24 should not be considered an indication of Applicants' acquiescence as to the outstanding rejection. Rather, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and dependent claims 2-5, 7-12, 14-17 and 19-24 to advance the prosecution and to obtain early an allowance of the present application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejection of claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over MATSUSHIMA in view of NAKAKI. According to an aspect of a disclosed embodiment of the present application, data recorded by one data processing apparatus may be updated by another data processing apparatus in the same recording medium. In such a situation, the data may be moved from its original position to another position due, for example, to mishandling by a user. For example, while viewing content stored on a recording medium using browser software, data representing the content may be unintentionally moved to another directory, due, for example, to an accidental operation of an input device (*see e.g.*, paragraph [0005] of Applicants' specification as published, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2007/0174334).

The Examiner acknowledges that MATSUSHIMA does not disclose a searcher that, when a content processor reads the content, searches for content out of a specified search range, the specified search range being defined according to a specified format as a range for storing content to be reproduced, when the content is managed by the management information and not present in the specified recording area, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1. The Examiner further acknowledges that MATSUSHIMA fails to disclose that when the content is found by the searcher, the link information setter updates link information for relating a recording area at which the content was found to the specified recording area so that the content is accessible using the management information, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1. However, the Examiner asserts NAKAKI as teaching these noted features and in particular, asserts Figures 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 as well as paragraphs [0042]-[0044] and [0048]-[0049] of NAKAKI.

Applicants submit that NAKAKI discloses creating and deleting a shortcut icon on a desktop computer. More particularly, NAKAKI discloses conducting a search to determine whether a started program is registered in program startup information at step S702 of Figure 7 and storing updated data of a designated program in program startup information in step S806 of Figure 8. Further, Applicants submit that Figure 9 of NAKAKI discloses creating a shortcut and retrieving a program name and storage location of a started program in step S901. Figure 12 of NAKAKI is submitted to illustrate detecting whether a shortcut on a desktop computer has been deleted and a shortcut icon file and an application program is illustrated by Figure 13.

Applicants respectfully submit that NAKAKI does not disclose searching for an application program, let alone searching for an application program out of a specified search range, when the content is managed by a management information and is not present in the

specified recording area, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1. Further, Applicants submit that NAKAKI does not disclose searching for a shortcut out of a specified search range, when the content is managed by the management information and not present in the specified recording area. Instead, Applicants submit that NAKAKI merely discloses creating a new shortcut in place of a deleted shortcut.

Moreover, Applicants submit that NAKAKI does not disclose updating link information at least insofar as the shortcut disclosed by NAKAKI is re-created in the same place as the deleted shortcut. That is, the shortcut disclosed by NAKAKI is submitted to not be link information, but instead is actually an icon file that is linked to an executable form of the application program. At least insofar as the shortcut is deleted, NAKAKI does not disclose a recording area at which the content was found (*i.e.*, found content), as specified in Applicants' independent claim 1. Even if the Examiner were to interpret the application program as teaching the claimed recording area at which the content was found (and Applicants submit one can not properly make such an interpretation), NAKAKI does not disclose, render obvious or even suggest that the application program is found anywhere else from a location at which it was originally stored.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that MATSUSHIMA and NAKAKI (either alone or in any proper combination) fail to disclose or render obvious all of the elements of the claimed invention, as recited in claim 1. That is, Applicants submit that the combination of MATSUSHIMA and NAKAKI set forth by the Examiner fails to at least disclose or render obvious a searcher that, when the content processor reads content, searches for the content out of a specified search range, the specified search range being defined according to the specified format as a range for storing content to be reproduced, when the content is managed by the

management information and not present in the specified recording area, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1. Further, Applicants submit that the combination of MATSUSHIMA and NAKAKI set forth by the Examiner fails to disclose or render obvious when the content is found by the searcher, the link information setter updates link information for relating a recording area at which the content was found to the specified recording area so that the content is accessible using the management information, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1.

Applicants submit that the method of independent claim 13 is allowable for reasons similar to those noted above with respect to independent claim 1, in addition to reasons related to its own recitations. The discussion set forth above for claim 1 is incorporated herein with respect to independent method claim 13, and thus, is not repeated herein.

Moreover, the computer-readable medium of independent claim 25 is submitted to be allowable for reasons similar to those noted above with respect to independent claim 1, in addition to reasons related to its own recitations, said arguments presented above being incorporated herein with respect to independent computer readable medium claim 25.

Applicants respectfully submit that each of dependent claims 2-12 and 14-24 are allowable at least because they depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1 or 13, respectively, which Applicants submit have been shown to be allowable. Each of dependent claims 2-12 and 14-24 are also submitted to recite further patentable subject matter. As such, allowance of the dependent claims is deemed proper for at least the same reasons noted for the independent claims upon which they depend, in addition to reasons related to their own recitations.

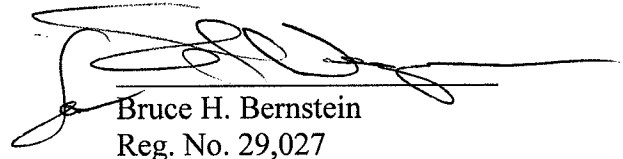
In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over MATSUSHIMA and NAKAKI.

At least in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, together with an indication of the allowability of all pending claims, in due course. Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present invention in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Should an extension of time be necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Response or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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